

NARYSSEC



National Rural Youth Service Corps



rural development
& land reform

Department:
Rural Development and Land Reform
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



NARYSEC

Contextual background:

Government has identified high levels of unemployment, deepening poverty and increasing inequalities as three persistent development challenges the country must overcome, if the vision and promises of the Constitution of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996) are to be realised.

Nowhere in South Africa is the impact of these three developmental challenges so obvious, that it has entrenched itself in every facet of the social life of the community as it has in the rural areas of the country. Rural communities daily face various challenges, which include the following:

- High levels of unemployment, particularly amongst the youth.
- Lack of vocational skills, against the backdrop of very limited job opportunities, exacerbating this situation.
- Lack of economic and social development, including very limited access to government services as well as basic services.

It was against this background that South Africa established, for the first time, a Ministry specifically tasked with a mandate of developing rural areas. The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform subsequently developed the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) as a holistic strategy to develop rural areas into vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities.

Through the implementation of the CRDP, the department aims to create social cohesion and development in rural communities. The CRDP is about changing the lives of rural people and enabling them to take control of their destiny. People are central to the CRDP and as such, it places particular emphasis on empowering rural communities. A critical component of rural communities is the youth. Currently, the CRDP is being implemented in more than 60 rural sites with intentions of rolling it out to 160 rural wards across the country by 2014.

Job creation central to the CRDP:

Job creation lies at the heart of the CRDP and the strategic thrust is on sustainable, quality jobs linked to skills training. It is important to note the following two points in relation to job creation:

- That the department's strategies and programmes to create jobs in rural areas are anchored around The New Growth Path, which provides a strategic framework for job creation.
- That the department has targeted to create 500 000 jobs in the rural sector over the next 10 years through various strategies and programmes.

The department's main skills development and job creation flagship programmes are:

- The National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC) – The programme

provides character building programmes, as well as, soft and hard skills training. It further dispatches youth to rural areas to undertake various rural infrastructure development projects.

- The CRDP is a strategic response to the needs of marginalised rural communities.
- It was developed to ensure that rural communities are mobilised so that they can take centre stage in the improvement of their own quality of life.
- The CRDP is also aimed at facilitating infrastructure development linked to the job creation model.
- The CRDP job creation model – This model aims to create at least one job opportunity for every rural household where the CRDP is being implemented.

The National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC):

Established in September 2010, NARYSEC's main goal is to recruit and develop rural youth, to perform community service in their own communities. As such, NARYSEC's specific key objectives are:

- To recruit unemployed youth in rural areas.
- To train youth through Further Education and Training programmes linked to the identified developmental community projects in rural areas.
- To develop youth with multi-disciplinary skills through civic education.
- To increase the number of rural communities receiving support in their self development through the CRDP.

NARYSEC is rural wards-focused, as such, it recruits youth from rural wards, including youth with disabilities. In 2010/2011, its recruitment targeted four youth per rural ward.

In 2012 the recruitment drive was increased to recruit six youth per rural ward, with emphasis in the CRDP sites where the numbers are more than 10 rural youth per CRDP site. Considering that South Africa consists of 2 920 rural wards, this process will lead to the employment of more than 10 000 youth. Being very strict on gender, NARYSEC's recruitment process insists on a 50/50 gender balance per rural ward.

To be considered for enrolment into NARYSEC, a youth must meet the following criteria:

- Must be in the 18 to 35 age group.
- Must have completed Grade 10, 11 or 12.
- Must be living in a rural area.
- Must be committed to staying in the programme for 48-months.

The following constitutes NARYSEC's vision for rural communities:

- A decline in the level of youth unemployment in rural areas.
- Increased literacy and skills in rural areas.
- Increased disposable income for youth in rural areas as a result of unemployment and entrepreneurial opportunities.

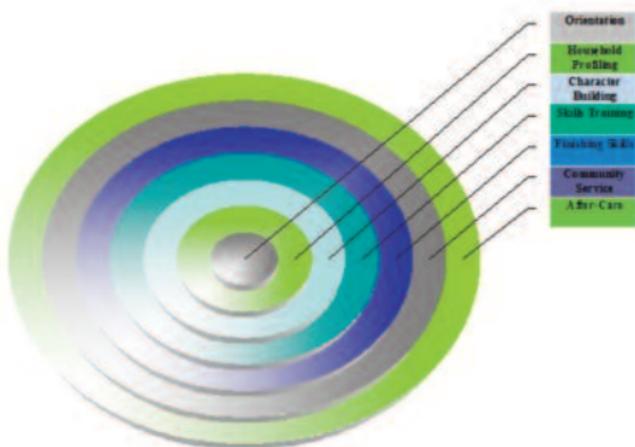
The department has committed itself to a long-term relationship with participants in the programme and thus expects youth enrolled in NARYSEC to commit themselves, similarly, to the programme for the same period. The character development training each NARYSEC youth undergoes also assists in underpinning this message.

In summary, the programme consists of:

- Character development (e.g. discipline, patriotism, rights awareness)
- Life skills training (e.g. rights awareness)
- Skills development (construction, agriculture, disaster management, welding, electrical, records management, etc.)
- Practical training at a workplace.
- Soft skills (e.g. mentorship, basic budgeting, project management, enterprise development, etc.)
- Deployment to rural wards to participate in the social and economic development of rural areas.

Training NARYSEC youths go through:

The chart below provides a diagrammatic view of the steps a NARYSEC youth goes through from the day s/he is enrolled into the programme to the day s/he exits the programme.



NARYSEC



NARYSEC's approach to skills development and job creation for youth in rural wards is informed by taking into account the following important understanding:

- That the department itself has initiated different projects to stimulate employment creation and skills development.
- That other skills development and job creation programmes have also been initiated and developed at both provincial and departmental levels.
- That specific focus of NARYSEC interventions and projects it undertakes are based on rural community service delivery.

Typically, from application to deployment to work in a rural ward, a NARYSEC applicant goes through 8 phases.

The first phase is the recruitment phase – for recruitment, NARYSEC uses conventional methods of advertising on local radio stations in local languages and other methods such as pamphlets. Application forms can also be obtained from the department's offices and municipal offices. They can also be accessed on the department's website: www.ruraldevelopment.gov.za

The training and conducting of household profiling lasts for a duration of four months.

Household profiling is very important in the socio-economic development of rural areas, as it is on the basis of the outcomes of the household and community profiling that community mobilisation and organisation (into e.g. cooperatives) as well as rural infrastructure development initiatives are undertaken. The youth are then dispatched to rural areas to undertake household profiling (the department aims to conduct household profiling in all rural wards).

The next training phase is the skills development phase. This 12 months training phase focuses on hard skills that includes construction, agriculture, disaster management, welding, electrical, records management, etc.

The last phase is the community service phase – The youth has an option of workplace application deployment or taking the route of a job creator. In the instance of a job creator, the youth will be assisted with the identification of business opportunities, mentoring, etc.

After the skills development phase, the youth will receive training which focuses on equipping them with basic budgeting skills and project administration. They will also be assisted to form and register their own businesses.

The youth receive a stipend of R1 320 per month throughout the period and can migrate to better employment or business opportunities earlier.



NARYSEC

How does NARYSEC interface with other strategic programmes aimed at developing rural communities?

NARYSEC plays a pivotal role in the CRDP.

Firstly, the CRDP development approach is premised on rural communities taking charge of their own development. As such, development initiatives undertaken in rural communities must first and foremost be based on development needs expressed by rural communities themselves. The household and community profiling is undertaken to, amongst others, record and prioritise such needs expressed by the community. The NARYSEC youth have been trained in this participatory research methodology and are being deployed to various areas across South Africa to undertake this valuable task that is so important in determining the scope, depth and direction of development to take place in rural areas.

During both the household and community needs profiling process, housing always emerged as one of the five needs identified by rural communities. The NARYSEC therefore prioritised the construction of houses in rural areas as part of the development of rural infrastructure in line with the CRDP framework. Training was subsequently shifted to have focus on qualifying the youth as bricklayers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, roofers and welders. Detail planning was involved in the process, and this included the following: identification of construction sites; appointment of professionally qualified project managers, engineers, architects, etc. Training of the NARYSEC participants in construction started on 1 July 2011.

Secondly, the NARYSEC youth have been trained on specific areas relating to both rural development as well as in land reform. With regards to rural disaster management, floods that hit many parts of South Africa in 2011 drew attention to the exposure and vulnerability of rural communities to such natural disasters. To mitigate the negative impact on rural communities, 110 NARYSEC participants have been identified and trained to become environmental monitors. These NARYSEC participants, with geography and mathematics, came from eight provinces and will be trained in the following:

- Environmental assessment.
- Understanding weather patterns and climate change.
- Global Positioning System (GPS) Introduction to environmental management, including environmental data collection.
- Disaster management, including flood management.
- First aid and fire wise training.

Given the challenge the department had in the past regarding the correct, auditable number of land claims outstanding, the NARYSEC youth have also been trained in records management and their involvement in this particular area has enabled the department to better manage information.

To take the NARYSEC to the next level, the following are the priorities for the programme moving forward:

- The roll out of six NARYSEC youth to all rural wards every two months.
- To give priority to rural wards that were skipped/missed during the first round.
- To prioritise provinces with vast rural areas yet less NARYSEC youth by topping up their numbers.
- To bring more youth living with disabilities on board.
- To provide skills development for participants with Grade 12 who passed maths and science with very good marks.

For the NARYSEC to meet its strategic objectives and contribute meaningfully to the president's call to all organs of State, business and the civil society to create job opportunities, it is very important that partnerships are created and sustained, and each stakeholder's contribution be clearly identified. The department plays a support role – as an initiator and coordinator. The project, NARYSEC, is nationally led by the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform and led provincially by MECs with rural development functions. This is included in the delivery agreement with the president.

How to contact us:

To get any supplementary or specific information about the NARYSEC, you may contact the officials indicated hereunder:

Province	Contact Person	Contact Number
Eastern Cape	Mr Mandayi Rala	082 739 7735
Free State	Ms Mmathabo Mogadime	082 827 6083
Gauteng	Mr Siphwe Mlangeni	082 577 5532
KwaZulu-Natal	Mr Kemraj Ramballi	082 376 9660
Limpopo	Mr Thinga Mudau	071 856 0542
Mpumalanga	Mr Thomas Moloji	082 969 8999
North West	Mr Thapelo Sekawana	082 824 5620
Northern Cape	Mr Peter Mokomele	053 830 4000
Western Cape	Mr Nyameko Mgoqi	082 222 6870
National Coordinator	Ms Nonala Buthelezi	012 312 8151
Skills Development	Mr Johan Ryk	012 312 8283
Support Services	Mr Khumbulani Kheswa	012 312 9671



NARYSECC

NARYSECC



National Rural Youth Service Corps



rural development
& land reform

Department:
Rural Development and Land Reform
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA